The Pyongyang Times

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The respected and beloved Leader Comrade Kim Il Sung poses for a photograph together with the government friendship delegation of the Republic of Upper Volta after reception

The respected and beloved Leader Comrade Kim Il Sung poses for a photograph together with the President of the Journalists Federation of Peru and General Secretary of the Peru-Korea Friendship and Culture Association and his family after reception

The Respected and Beloved Leader Comrade KIM IL SUNG

Receives Government Friendship Delegation of Republic of Upper Volta

The respected and beloved Leader Comrade Kim Il Sung, Head of State and Premier of the Cabinet of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, received on October 11 the government friendship delegation of the Republic of Upper Volta on a visit to our country.

Present on the occasion were the members of the delegation headed by Antoine Dakoure, Minister of Agriculture and Stockbreeding of the Republic of Upper Volta.

Also present there were Kang Ryang Uk, Vice-President of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Assembly; Chang Yun Pil, Chairman of the Agricultural Commission; and Kim Jae Bong, Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs.

The respected and beloved Leader Comrade Kim Il Sung had a cordial and friendly talk with the guests.

The Respected and Beloved Leader Comrade KIM IL SUNG

Receives President of Journalists Federation of Peru and General Secretary of Peru-Korea Friendship and Culture Association and His Family

The respected and beloved Leader Comrade Kim Il Sung, Head of State and Premier of the Cabinet of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, received on October 11 Genaro Carnero Checa, President of the Journalists Federation of Peru and General Secretary of the Peru-Korea Friendship and Culture Association, and his family on a visit to our country.

Present on the occasion were Chong Jun Gi, Chairman of the Central Committee of the Korean Journalists Union, and Kim Gwan Sop, Vice-Chairman of the Korean Society for Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries.

The respected and beloved Leader Comrade Kim Il Sung had a cordial and friendly talk with the guests and had a lunch together with them.

Grand Commissioning Ceremony Held at the September Textile Mill Honoured by Presence of Respected and Beloved Leader Comrade KIM IL SUNG

A grand ceremony was held for commissioning the September Textile Mill on the 14th on the spot in the presence of Comrade Kim Il Sung, the respected and beloved Leader.

Respectfully placed on the platform of the meeting place was the portrait of the respected and beloved Leader Comrade Kim Il Sung, the sun of our nation and the benevolent father of our builders and textile workers, who leads our people along the one road of victory and glory and happiness and prosperity.

The builders and textile workers who performed distinguished service in the construction of the September Textile Mill and many other working people gathered there early in the morning.

At 9 a.m. Comrade Kim Il Sung, the great Leader of our Party and the Korean people, appeared at the meeting place amid the loud strains of welcome music.

The entire attendants warmly welcomed the fatherly Leader with the stormy cheers of "Long live the great Leader Comrade Kim Il Sung!" and ceaseless, thunderous applause.

Also present there was Comrade Kim Song Ae.

At the front gate of the mill the Leader was met by Comrades O Jin U, O Tae Bong and other cadres of the central and local Party and government bodies and working people's organizations and functionaries of the factories and enterprises.

Women innovators presented the respected and beloved Leader Comrade Kim Il Sung with fragrant bouquets carrying the unanimous respect of the builders and textile workers.

The respected and beloved Leader Comrade Kim Il Sung cut the red tape at the front gate of the mill amid warm cheers of the crowds.

Cheers of "Long live the great Leader Comrade Kim Il Sung!" and thunderous applause reverberated more and more loudly.

When the respected and beloved Leader Comrade Kim Il Sung entered the mill, all its machines started humming.

The Leader looked round the carding, combing, re-combing, twisting, spinning, and threading shops and other main production processes of the mill.

The respected and beloved Leader Comrade Kim Il Sung was satisfied to see the magnificent, modern factory. And he gave a programmatic teaching clearly showing the orientation for the development of the mill. He said that the mill with modern equipment should be managed properly and an upswing effected on production so that the people may be provided with more abundant textiles.

After seeing around the mill, the Leader visited its dormitory and nursery.

That day he posed for a photograph with the innovators in the construction of the September Textile Mill.

The textile workers who received the programmatic teaching of the respected and beloved Leader Comrade Kim Il Sung made a firm, loyal determination to live up to the confidence and expectation of the fatherly Leader and repay his great consideration by handling the production equipment with utmost care, stepping up the struggle for economization and by steadily increasing the production of thread and high-quality textiles, cherishing his teaching deep in their hearts.

Then Comrade O Tae Bong, Secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, read out a joint congratulatory message from the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and the Cabinet of the Republic to the entire workers, technicians and office workers who participated in the construction of the September Textile Mill. And Chief Secretary Li Bong Gil of the Chagang Provincial Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea delivered a report which was followed by speeches of the workers expressing determinations.

The meeting **adopted amid loud applause of the attendants a letter of pledge to Comrade Kim Il Sung, the great Leader of our Party and the Korean people.**

The Respected and Beloved Leader Comrade KIM IL SUNG

Receives New Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of GDR to Korea

The respected and beloved Leader Comrade Kim Il Sung, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and Premier of the Cabinet of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, received on October 5 Franz Everhartz, new Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the German Democratic Republic to our country.

Present on the occasion was Kim Jae Bong, Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs.

The respected and beloved Leader Comrade Kim Il Sung had a cordial and friendly talk with the ambassador.

National Congress of Communication Workers Held

A national congress of communication workers was held at the Mansudae Assembly Hall in Pyongyang from October 12 to 14 under the grand circumstances in which all the working people of our country are striving hard to carry out the huge tasks of the Six-Year Plan advanced by Comrade Kim Il Sung, the great Leader of the revolution, at the historic Fifth Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea.

Respectfully placed on the platform was a portrait of Comrade Kim Il Sung, the respected and beloved Leader, great Marxist-Leninist and genius of the revolution, who is steadfastly leading our Party and people along one road of victory and glory.

Seen on the background was a model of Mt. Paekdu-san symbolizing the brilliant revolutionary traditions of our Party. And hanging spread there was a big national flag of our glorious fatherland, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

Present at the congress were communication workers from all parts of the country who are displaying patriotic devotion and creativeness in fulfilling their revolutionary tasks bearing deep in mind the programmatic teachings of the fatherly Leader given to the domain of communications. Also attending the congress with them were Comrades Kim Il and Pak Sung Chul and other leading cadres of the Party and the Government and responsible functionaries of central organs, working people's organizations and the press organs.

So busy as he was with the state affairs, the Leader who had personally arranged the congress of the Red communication workers and attended to its work down to details came to see its attendants on October 13. And he inspired and encouraged them and posed for a photograph with them.

At the congress the Minister of Communication made the report "On effecting new innovations in the sphere of communications upholding the programmatic tasks set forth by Comrade Kim Il Sung, the respected and beloved Leader, at the Fifth Congress of our Party."

After the report many active communication workers took the floor.

Amid stormy applause of all the attendants, the congress adopted a letter of pledge to Comrade Kim Il Sung, the great Leader of our Party and the Korean people, reflecting the unanimous sentiments of loyalty of all the communication workers who will remain faithful to the Leader with single-hearted devotion.

The congress summed up the proud achievements scored in the endeavours to carry into practice the *Juche*-based line of building socialist communications set forth by the Leader and it had a broad exchange of experiences and discussed in a concrete way the fighting tasks of the communication workers for materializing the magnificent programme put forward by him at the Fifth Congress of the WPK.

The congress powerfully demonstrated the revolutionary stamina of our Red communication workers to actively contribute to promoting the cause of socialism and communism and bringing earlier the independent reunification of the country by effecting new innovations in the field of communications.

In the name of the attendants, the congress unanimously adopted a letter to the south Korean workers, technicians and office employees in the domain of communications.

Joint Information of First Meeting of Co-chairmen of North-South Coordination Commission Published

A joint information was published after the first meeting of the Co-chairmen of the North South Coordination Commission held in Panmunjom on October 12.

The joint information says:

The first meeting of the Co-chairmen of the North-South Coordination Commission was held in Panmunjom on October 12, 1972 between Second Vice-Premier Pak Sung Chul acting on behalf of the Co-chairman of the Pyongyang side to the North-South Coordination Commission and Li Hu Rak, Director of the Central Intelligence Agency and Co-chairman of the Seoul side.

At the talks the two sides discussed problems between the north and the south after the publication of the north-south joint statement and reaffirmed the spirit of the north-south joint statement. And both sides discussed questions of dispelling misunderstanding and distrust between the north and the south, seeking great national unity and promoting the independent and peaceful reunification of the country through the faithful fulfilment of the agreed points of the north-south joint statement.

The two sides reached an agreement on holding the second meeting of the Co-chairmen of the North-South Coordination Commission in the latter part of October 1972.

First Meeting of Co-chairmen of North-South Coordination Commission Held

The first meeting of the Co-chairmen of the North-South Coordination Commission was held in Panmunjom on October 12.

Attending the meeting on our side was Second Vice-Premier Pak Sung Chul acting on behalf of Kim Yong Ju, Director of the Organizational and Guidance Department, and on the Seoul side was Li Hu Rak, Director of the Central Intelligence Agency.

Also attending it were four members on each side.

At the meeting problems between the north and the south after the publication of the north-south joint statement were discussed and questions were discussed for accelerating the independent, peaceful reunification of the country on the basis of the three principles of national reunification already agreed upon between the two sides.

The two sides reached at the meeting an agreement on publishing a joint information of the first meeting of the Co-chairmen of the North-South Coordination Commission.

A scene of the national congress of communication workers

The respected and beloved Leader Comrade Kim Il Sung giving on-the-spot guidance at a construction site of the Chollima Street

PYONGYANG, Beautiful City

A few days ago the Editorial Board received a letter from one of our foreign readers, in which he wanted to know about the construction of Pyongyang, our capital of revolution.

To get the information he wanted, our reporter called on Song Yong Man, chief engineer of the General Bureau of Construction of Pyongyang City, and had talks with him. Follow questioning and answering:

Q. Our foreign readers want to know the "Pyongyang speed." Would you kindly explain it?

A. To explain what the words are meant, I must go back to the days of Fatherland Liberation War (1950-1953).

During the war, to bring our people under their knees the U.S. imperialists showered bombs on Pyongyang, more than one bomb per capita of the population. And Pyongyang was reduced to ruins. They bragged it would take one hundred years for Pyongyang to rise again. But they were wrong in calculation. Pyongyang was rebuilt into a modern city in a little more than ten years. This prodigious achievement is attributable to the wise guidance of Comrade Kim Il Sung, the great Leader of the revolution.

Already in the grim days of war he planned to reconstruct the Pyongyang city as it is and after the war he directed the project in person. In 1957 he advanced the line of industrialization of construction and led our builders to implement it.

The builders of the capital created world-startling miracles amidst the grand march of Chollima. In 1958 they built 20,000 modern flats with the materials and funds outlaid for 7,000 flats. Thus, one flat rose every 16 minutes. Under Japanese imperialist rule seven years were spent to construct the Taedong-gang bridge. Now our builders completed in a year the construction of the Okryu bridge which is three times larger than the former. In the days of Japanese imperialism the construction of the Hwashin department store took two years and nine moaths. Now our people built the Pyongyang Grand Theatre, 23 times larger than the store, in 18 months. Records were set in housing construction; in 1962 a flat was built every two minutes and 37 seconds; in 1967 a five-storied apartment house for one hundred families was plastered in only two days.

Entering 1970, records were renewed. The Chollima and Sosong streets were built in six months, along with many office buildings, apartment buildings of eight stories and more, eight-kilometre long pavement and numerous surface and underground establishments. This was another amazing achievement. Monumental buildings appeared in many parts of the city in the course of grand construction.

Q. You have just said Pyongyang was constructed at hurricane speed for nearly 20 years. Now our readers can, I think, imagine the grandeur of the city. Well, may I ask you for what Pyongyang is distinguished from capitalist metropolises?

A. Our builders keep in their minds the following words of our Leader:

"What do we mean by socialist content in architecture? In short, it means showing concern for the people. This means that all buildings should meet the requirements of the working people."

Acting upon the Leader's instruction, our builders pay primary attention to the problem of house-density.

In the cities of capitalist countries houses stand huddled together, with a breath-taking density of 80 per cent. To say in concrete terms, out of the ground area of 1,000 square metres 800 square metres are occupied by houses and the rest by passageways and drains. The same is true of Seoul in south Korea. Block system as we have here can be hardly seen in Seoul.

Things are quite different here in Pyongyang. The streets consist of well-appointed blocks. House density is 20 per cent. Eighty per cent of block area are used for parks, lawns and children's playgrounds. All buildings were constructed spaciously and finely. They belongs to working people and everything there is arranged well to fit their life. This lends contrast to the realities of south Korean society where the privileged few or rich men alone live in good houses. Our flats each has 60 square metres of floor space on the average and two to three rooms, sometimes four to six rooms. Rooms are provided with hot water heating and kitchens with electric heating.

To take the instance of Block No. 56 in Kyongsang-dong, Central District, on the beautiful bank of River Taedong-gang. The block stands on a plot of several hectares, comprising apartments of five to six stories. For the convenience of the inhabitants, there are shops of processed foodstuff, goods for cultural use; daily necessaries and furniture and fixtures, restaurants, department store, repair shops, bathhouse, laundry and other welfare facilities. Like this, the block itself constitutes a perfect system that provides all the conveniences of life.

The block has things arranged for the convenience of education and life of children. A primary school exists within its boundary, and young children go to school, free from troubles of crossing highways. Nurseries and kindergartens, too, are within its boundary. So, little ones spend their time, freely playing near their homes.

The streets of Pyongyang are formed with such blocks.

Q. Referring to the scenes of Pyongyang, people say that parks are not in the city, but the city is in parks. This is a characteristic of Pyongyang, isn't it?

A. They say right. That is the pride of our Pyongyang.

Before liberation the hills of Mangyong-bong, Ryongak-san and Taesong-san in the outskirts were naked. Now the hills, thick with trees, have become fine pleasure grounds, along with Hill Moran-bong. To take Hill Taesong-san as an example, A 16-kilometre long sight-seeing road winds through the hill and a zoo and botanical garden were built at its foot, and the working people fully enjoy recreation there. The Taedong-gang and Potong-gang rivers were embanked with granite. Their banks are luxuriant with willows in summer season and in autumn turn scarlet enveloped in multi-coloured foliage, thus adding splendour to the beautiful scenery of Pyongyang.

All the streets of the city from the avenue lying between the railway station and the foot of Hill Moran-bong to the alleys of Kunggol, Misan and Kambuk are bordered with tall trees on both sides and residential quarters are intersected with gardens, green beds and lawns. Pyongyang lies in parks, in the truest sense of the words. The green area is 40 square metres per citizen. All roads, big and small, were asphalted and the streets are clean. There is no pollution by gas, smell and smoke.

Before liberation 67 per cent of the total of factories were located in residential quarters and caused air and water contamination. Such factories were removed long before. Some factories are still found in the streets. But they cause no environmental pollution at all. They are kept finely like cultural establishments. They make rather much for city architecture.

Let me take an example. The Combined Pyongyang Daily-necessaries Factory looks like a palace, all its walls being glass. The Combined Printing House and some other factories were built in the streets. Of course, they are industrial establishments, but they do no harm to the life and health of citizens. Instead, their being in residential areas is good, because the workers do not spend much time to go to their places of work.

Q. May I put one more question before conclusion? How will Pyongyang change during the Six-Year Plan?

A. Our Leader already set a long-range plan of city construction. According to the plan, the Pipa Street and many other modern streets, larger and finer than the Chollima Street, will spring up in Pyongyang during the plan period, along with many monumental buildings, big bridges, roads, promenades, parks and pleasure grounds.

Bak Ju Sol

The Leader of the People

"All Is Good That the People Say Is Good"

Everywhere in the northern half of the Republic, from the distant port city Chongjin to the ancient city Kaesong, fine and nice-looking apartment houses can be found and in all farm villages there are cosy modern dwellings suited to the customs and sentiments of our people.

In these modern houses are living the working people who, under the Japanese imperialist rule, had to live in tumble-down thatched huts and dugouts in which they could hardly stretch themselves. Now they live in immense happiness.

Whenever I think of this blessed life of our people, I remember what happened in January 1958.

At the time, the respected and beloved Leader Comrade Kim Il Sung who always concerns himself to provide better housing conditions to our people, met construction workers in Pyongyang and had a face-to-face talk with them for days to discuss measures for building houses more and better and at a faster tempo.

A construction worker, I was also honoured to be present on the occasion.

At the end of the consultation, the Premier said:

"We discussed much about concrete matters. But if we discuss matters staying in the office only, our discussion will end in a mere empty talk. So, let us go and see closely how things stand with the construction work and what kind of house the people demand."

We accompanied the Premier to Sinchang-dong where the housing construction was under way and soon we reached a tall apartment house in the Youth Street, East District.

He went up to the second floor and dropped in at a flat.

The sun-lit snug rooms, different articles of furniture on the floor, beautiful flowerpots...All this told of a decent life.

When he entered the room, the Premier asked the hostess in detail where her husband worked, how much their income was, and how many children they had, and also asked her if she liked her house.

The couple had no house of their own and had to live in a rented room before liberation. During the war (1950-1953) they were made to get along in a dugout owing to the bombings of the U.S. imperialist aggressors. But now they live in a fine flat under the deep solicitude of the Party.

The hostess replied to the Premier that her joy was beyond description.

Still mindful of the inconveniences they might have, he himself put his hand on the floor carefully and then said:

"What do you think, compared with floor-heated room? In the old days, our grandfathers said they felt their life was worth living only when they were served a meal prepared by their daughter-in-law, sitting cross-legged in the warm floor-heated room..."

The moment we listened to him, we constructors felt a wrench in our hearts.

We had pangs of conscience because we built such houses, failing to deeply grasp the Premier's idea of building houses to suit the customs and sentiments of the Koreans.

The woman said:

"Premier! It's true. The floor-heated room is the best for those living with old parents or bringing up babies. How wonderful it would be, if this apartment house were built on the floor-heated system."

Turning to us constructors, the Premier said:

"How about it? The wife is right in what she says, isn't she?

The wife has given us a very good opinion. All is good that the people say is good. You had better examine whether the floor-heated system can be installed in the multi-storeyed apartment houses, too, in future..."

We were so deeply moved at the lofty virtues of the Premier who shows scrupulous care for the people's life.

He saw round the flat and then looked for a rule. With the rule in hand, he measured the length and breadth of a room. After that, he proceeded to the kitchen.

The Premier took a close look at the kitchen table, bowls and plates in a cupboard, rice bin and even the coal storage. He then asked the hostess:

"Don't you feel your kitchen is narrow?"

"A bit small, but we can manage with it."

The Premier looked round the kitchen once more and told us that the kitchen should be wider so that housewives may not have inconvenience in their kitchen work.

"Madame, what else do you want me to do?" asked the Premier again.

"There is nothing else."

"When you think of something to say in the future, too, don't hesitate to speak up with your opinion to the Party or functionaries concerned. We build houses and carry on the revolution for the happy life of the people. How can we go on without knowing the people's opinions and their living conditions? When leading personnel go among the people and the people come nearer to them and talk freely with each other about everything we will be successful in our work."

Valuing even an ordinary housewife's opinion so highly, the Premier is deeply concerned to provide our people with more dwelling houses which are still more attractive and commodious. Touched by his noble virtues, we constructors did our bit, however little, to repay his favour.

That year constructors in Pyongyang erected dwelling houses for 20,000 families, and afterwards many more houses in all parts of the country every year.

Our people will transmit forever from generation to generation the great favour of the Premier who has devoted his all to the present-day happiness.

Kim Jong Hui

House Rent Is Next to Nothing

Under the wise guidance and paternal care of the respected and beloved Leader Comrade Kim Il Sung, the working people in our country enjoy a happy life. They have no worries about food and clothing. The same can be said of the housing problem.

For them a great number of dwelling houses have already been built in towns and villages at state expense. Every year, new modern dwellings go up both in the urban and rural areas—respectively for 100,000 and 150,000-200,000 families.

These state-financed houses go to the working people. The house rent is next to nothing and so are water rates, electricity fees and welfare service fees.

Take the house rent as an example. For a house with two rooms factory and office workers pay only 0.8 per cent of their wages a month.

Besides, repairing of houses for the working people is undertaken entirely by the state.

Thus, our people get much additional state benefits in the use of their houses.

SHORT STORY

The Bright Morning

Ko Byong Sam

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In the afternoon four city planners called at the Supreme Command.

The meeting of the Military Commission had just ended, and generals were coming out of the office of Comrade Kim Il Sung. The adjutant guided the scientists who had arrived a little before the city planners to the office. In the wireless room operators were busy telegraphing the Supreme Commander's speech at the meeting. While waiting, the city planners were talking with the adjutant in the drawing room around the spread-out outline of the plans for the rehabilitation of the city of Pyongyang on the desk. An old planner with whitish grey hair said:

"Comrade Supreme Commander gave us the task of planning the reconstruction of the city last winter and he formed this group for us."

The adjutant, passing his hand over his cleanshaven face, continued to think. He had not known it before, for he was in a combat unit during the winter. The Supreme Commander had already been thinking of the reconstruction last winter when things were even harder than they are now.... Once again the adjutant was struck with admiration.

"We designed as boldly as possible. I'm not sure if it is feasible."

"What should I say about these plans which will be presented to him?" the adjutant asked scrutinizing the plan with admiration and wonder.

The word "reconstruction" was not in tune with the severe reality of war, and the plans were so grandiose that it seemed to be a dream to the adjutant and to the planners themselves, too.

It is war time. One can not afford to do anything but hate the enemy and live for the day alone. When would this war be over? Are the plans necessary at this very moment? Where can you find the materials to build such a city on the war's debris? So one might wonder.

The door opened. A tall, old scientist wearing spectacles came out of the room followed by several other people.

When the adjutant led the planners into the room, Comrade Supreme Commander rose from his seat and took a few steps towards them.

"Thank you for coming all this way."

Comrade Kim Il Sung shook hands with each of them and with a broad smile offered them seats. Among the planners was a young man who wore a uniform on which the traces of epaulettes were still recognizable.

"Have you been discharged?" he asked gently staring at him.

"Yes, I have, Comrade Supreme Commander!" The young planner answered coming to attention in military fashion. Smiling, he told him to sit down.

"Let me see the outline of the plans."

The planners, throbbing with emotion, spread the plans on the round table. They were encouraged by the Supreme Commander's attentive, bright face.

All of them were happy to show their boldly designed, collective work to Comrade Kim Il Sung. The old planner with whitish grey hair explained the plans confidently.

It was a bird's-eye view of the city. The formation of the central part of Pyongyang, the network of roads and highways and the various details shown in dots and lines seemed to come to life. Laying his hands on the table, Comrade Kim Il Sung scrutinized the plans. Silence. Studying their faces, he said gently:

"Thanks for a job well done!... But let me ask you this. What was your attitude while you were designing?"

"We always remembered your instruction to be bold, but I'm afraid the plans are too grandiose to be feasible...."

At this, the Supreme Commander's face grew serious.

"Too grandiose to be feasible? In my opinion it seems to be neither too grandiose nor too bold. Your own attitude is uncertain, and more than that, you seem to losing faith."

"...?"

Victory is already ours!... When you believe this, I'm sure, you could create a fine design now for the sake of the people. Of course, I know you haven't lost complete confidence. But when a severe war is going on and all that is in sight is destruction, if one does not take such a position the spirit of creation is lost. The fact that victory is already on our side is not a conclusion to be drawn only through the information of the Supreme Command or the total military achievements. On the contrary conditions in the front are rather hard these days. Why then do we say that victory is already ours? Because we are farsighted enough to see the ever growing strength of the people in the furnace of war...."

Comrade Kim Il Sung once again recalled what he had seen on his tour of the battle and home fronts. As he had before understood the genuine sentiment of the people, he now came to understand many acute problems whose solution could not be delayed. And he immediately took measures to deal with them. He took the proper steps to preserve and develop the science and culture of the people and to cultivate talented men and bring their abilities into full use. The fact that he hastened the study of vinalon testifies to his ardor and scientific foresight for advancing Korea to a glorious future. The movement forward should be maintained even amidst the fire of war. Creative energy should outstrip destruction. He, therefore, had received the scientists in good time, and thus had paved the way for their research work.

Deep in thought, he felt that he once again heard the voices of the people and the children reading books. He pictured newly built houses at the foot of hills everywhere in the country.

"...Because of the blackout it is impossible to see the city lights at night. But wherever we go in our country we can hear children's voices reading books. Don't you look forward to a bright future when you hear those voices, comrades? You should feel like building fine school houses for them and giving them the best things in the world!

The people are thinking of building school houses. We must read the people's mind."

Comrade Kim Il Sung stopped talking for a while. A general came in. The general stood at attention and handed him a sheet of paper with extraordinary looks on his face.

Soon after reading it, Comrade Kim Il Sung walked behind a partition screen. The telephone rang repeatedly.

"Is it Comrade commander of XX corps?"

The room rang with the loud-sounding voices.

Serious battles were being fought not only in the eastern sector but also in the western sector. Though the planners did not know military affairs, they were deeply impressed at his order not to give even an inch of land in the liberated region.

He returned and continued speaking softly as if all were well.

"Why do we work out designs for cities and factories and build an underground theatre while waging a war? The people may become bitter due to the war. We must soothe the roughened hearts of the people. We must heal their wounds. We must build fine dwelling houses immediately for the people who achieved the victory. We must build cultural palaces, too, where they'll create art that will become well known throughout the world. We must establish schools and nurseries for the coming generation. To wait until the war has ended and then hastily try to build our cities is not the method of work of Communists.

The war cannot block the advance our nation and working people are making toward the civilized world...."

He could not finish. There was a telephone call informing him that the bridge had been repaired and the freight train loaded with urgent war supplies had started for the front. He ordered it should get to its destination before sunup.

Everything was concentrated on this room. He had not a second to spare. All were urgent matters. He had to give an affirmative answer to the acute question of whether Korea would win the war or not. The planners breathed deeply.

Glancing at his watch, Comrade Kim Il Sung resumed:

"The design seems to be rather weak. The spirit of our people is hardly expressed. This city must rise as the heart of the people, embracing their triumphant ideas and mettle. Our people will create a new era of our nation through this war...."

He broke off, turning his sharp eyes to the world map. As the adjutant came in and informed him of something, he spoke in a high-pitched voice:

"The days the Yankees were worshipped are over and done. The flame of revolution and the severe storm which will spread to all continents have been originated from this land. We have many things to do. We must run a hundred steps while others do ten. Such spirits are recognizable even in the war. We must live and struggle to build socialism before others...."

With these words he breathed a new spirit into the planners—a spirit to build the city boldly and beautifully, even though the enemy bragged it would never rise again.

The planners took a deep breath.

The old planner was inspired with solemnity at the realization that all the belief and confidence in victory, life and the future were gushing out of this room, the office of the Supreme Command and from Comrade Kim Il Sung. And although he had felt self-reproach a moment ago, he now felt a deep inspiration in his heart.

A few moments passed in absolute quiet.

Comrade Kim Il Sung spoke softly:

"The next shortcoming is the lack of Korean style and the mettle of the Korean people. Is it possible to compare Mt. Paekdu-san to the head of the country? Yes, we can compare it to the head, and the three seas, East Sea, West Sea and South Sea are its wings. I mean the wings that sweep enemies to the ocean floor with one flap. Then Mt. Kumgang-san possibly is the face, isn't it? Sometimes I think that way, while having a deep view of our land."

He smiled shifting his eyes to the planners.

"Our people call Pyongyang the heart. The heart is an important thing! From the geographical, spiritual, material points of view.... It must be built so that every valuable thing may be symbolized...for it is the heart."

Comrade Kim Il Sung broke off a while. He gazed at the map of Korea on the wall.

He fixed his eyes on it as if he perceived everything as he did in the past when he looked down intently at the lake of Chonji from the top of Mt. Paekdu-san.

He recalled all that was visible and all that was audible...thunderstorms over Mt. Paekdu-san, blue ripples of Chonji, the rustle of trees, footprints on the snow, the sound of footsteps and then the rolling white-crested waves of three seas, beating against the shore.... And he felt as if he had touched the peaks of Mt. Kumgang-san, which seemed to be surrounded by flames as if it were a volcano with its base encircled with the smoke of the war; its face, however, shone brightly over the earth.

(To Be Continued)

A view of Pyongyang, the capital of revolution Photo by Ryu Hwan In

At a New FLAT

Some time ago we went to a residential quarter on the Potonggang River, where many-storied modern apartment buildings were lively with people moving in.

In the years of Japanese imperialist rule, the place had been a slum where poor people lived under constant threat of floods and epidemics at the very bottom of the social scale. Now under our socialist system, however, it has been turned into modern living quarters and a place of cultural recreation for the working people.

We called at a flat in a tower-like, 12-storied apartment which was brisk with people removing to their new flats and their neighbours.

We were welcomed by the family of Comrade Kim Jae Hyop, a worker of an engineering plant in Pyongyang.

The host showed us into his home.

They had just moved in and were talking about how greatly they owed their new happy life to the respected and beloved Leader Comrade Kim Il Sung and expressing their loyal determination to repay him, in a bright room where his portrait was respectfully hung.

The flat had a number of rooms—a sitting-room, a children's room, a study and drawing room, etc. These rooms were sunny and looked comfortable. They were well furnished and fitted with best quality fixtures and chandeliers and had floors centrally heated with hot water. The kitchen had electric cooking pots, portable electric cooking furnaces, a refrigerator, and other modern utensils. The clean, tiled laundry had a washing machine and even a dehydrator. The bathroom was also modernly equipped.

When we looked round all these rooms, Mrs. Li, the old mother of Kim Jae Hyop, took me by the hand and seated me. She said, recollecting the hardships she had undergone before liberation:

"Under the Japanese imperialist rule, I lived in a dugout on the Poton-gang River. I lost my husband and sons in a flood, and in place of my dead husband, I had to slave for a capitalist. But now, thanks to the Premier we are better housed than even landlords and capitalists in those days. Indeed, it's like a dream. I'm afraid I can't repay all my indebtedness to the Premier even if all my family try hard for generations..."

Mrs. Ok Sun, the hostess, also proudly told about the kitchen utensils permeated with the warm love of the great Leader who is always thinking of freeing women from the heavy burdens of household work.

At this home we were again deeply moved by the noble character of the fatherly Leader who is deeply concerned to provide the people with more convenient and comfortable dwellings.

Comrade Kim Jae Hyop told us:

"I can't express all my happiness of living in this wonderful house, which I owe to the Premier. And moreover, the rent for this modernly furnished flat is no more than one per cent of my monthly wage. The fees for heating and electricity, too, are next to nothing. Is it conceivable elsewhere but under the socialist system in our country? I'm told that half of the families in south Korea are homeless, and even when they are lucky enough to get a rented room they have to pay rent which is as much as the monthly income of an ordinary worker. What a hard time the people must be having!"

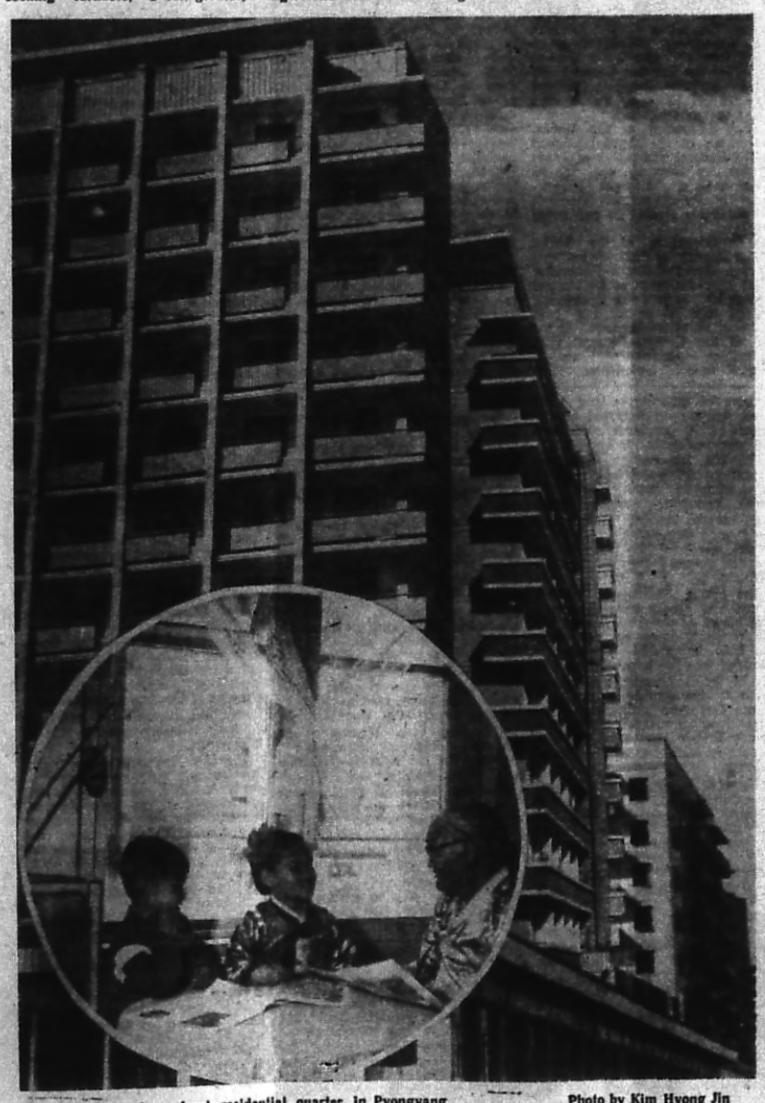
When we think of the south Korean society where the absolute majority of working people are now taking shelter under bridges or dugouts in fear of the approaching winter whereas the rich people idle away in luxury, depravity and corruption in mansions worth hundreds of millions of won, a society full of contradictions, we cannot repress our sympathy with the south Korean brothers and our hatred for Pak Jung Hi and his followers, the anti-popular, reactionary rulers.

When we said good-bye to the family and came out, the dusk was deepening.

The streets in the residential quarters under luminous mercury lamps were humming with the waves of merry people coming and going, the illuminations, red and green, on top of buildings beautifully decorating the night sky of the capital.

We left the place, thinking that the country must be reunified as soon as possible and that south Korea must become a society where the people can enjoy happiness just as the people in the northern half of the Republic.

Yun Jong Ok



A workers' residential quarter in Pyongyang Photo by Kim Hyong Jin

Construction Makes Headway in Pyongyang

A large number of public establishments and modern dwelling houses are now under construction in Pyongyang, the capital of revolution. One can see them rising up here and there.

The respected and beloved Leader Comrade Kim Il Sung said:

"Pyongyang is the heart of the Korean people, the capital of our socialist homeland and a wellspring of our revolution. With great pride, we must make the hero city of Pyongyang even more beautiful and magnificent..."

To faithfully carry out the programmatic instruction of the Leader, we workers of the Central District General Housing Construction Enterprise are engaged in the construction of a grand gymnasium by the Potong-gang River in the same high spirit with which we built hosts of tall apartment houses and public buildings in a short span of time.

The construction site of the modern and magnificent gymnasium is a constant scene of miracles and innovations.

The builders are hammering away at their task to finish the project within the year.

They skillfully assemble heavy prefab parts which are lifted with cranes from time to time and place a some 80-ton truss in only 15 minutes on the top of high walls with the help of powerful machines.

Our construction of the gymnasium is fairly fast-going, certainly. Yet, other construction projects undertaken in the capital, too, are quite fast in speed. An apartment house whose construction was in the stage of the first storey in the morning becomes three or four storeys high in the evening.

At such an amazing speed the 22-storeyed School Building No. 2 of Kim Il Sung University and a modern indoor swimming pool have been set up and the Potonggang International Hotel is now near completion. The construction of 99 schools with more than 1,000 classrooms scheduled to be finished this year is progressing apace.

A broad thoroughfare has appeared in the West Pyongyang District with 12 or 15-storeyed apartment houses going up. It is the Pipa Street which is in the stage of completion. It will be far larger and still more splendid than the Chollima Street.

The projected Sangwon Street is to be lined with dwelling houses of different styles. Six-storeyed apartment houses have already risen in the new street, bringing its beauty into bold relief.

We constructors are forging ahead with a high pride and honour to realize the far-sighted plan of the Leader for building Pyongyang, the capital of revolution, more magnificently and splendidly.

Li Yong Jin, Labour Hero.
Central District General Housing Construction Enterprise

Many Modern Homes Are Built in Farm Villages

In accordance with our Party's policy on equally raising the living standards of all the working people, a large-scale, modern, rural housing construction is going on throughout the country.

Comrade Kim Il Sung, the great Leader of revolution, taught as follows:

"By more vigorously pushing forward the construction of modern farm houses at state expense, we will alter the face of the countryside completely in the next few years."

True to the teaching of the Leader, 1,700 modern rural homes have already been built in the Tongchon county, Kangwon Province, 500 in Migok-ri, Pongsan county, North Hwanghae Province, and 400 in Sohung-ri, Hungsan county, South Hamgyong Province... Indeed, too many to enumerate here, for such housing construction is now under way throughout the country—from lowlands to remote highlands.

These modern homes built in such a large number at state expense are provided to the farmers free of charge.

With dwellings of traditional, upturned eaves and houses of modern style roofs in harmonious combination, and with hospitals, shops, bathhouses, barber's shops, kindergartens, nurseries, schools and other cultural facilities, all surrounded by flowery gardens, well-designed, splendid modern villages provide the farmers with as happy a life as that of townsfolk.

New houses with clean rooms, kitchens even provided with running water and snow-white walls—these attractive houses are now welcoming those who are moving in.

An old man at Chigyon-ri, Kapsan county, Ryanggang Province felt so grateful to the Leader for the benefit that he was moved to tears.

It is only too natural that he shed the tears of gratitude when he was given a modern brick house thanks to the Leader, such a home as had been owned only by landlords before liberation; in those days the old man even hadn't had a mud hut for himself and often had to take shelter under the sky, dreaming of a humble straw-thatched house of his own, looking up at the moon.

He is not the only one who has the joy of living in a modern home now. Many, many other farmers have had the benefit.

During the 5 years following the publication of the Leader's "Theses on the Socialist Rural Question in Our Country" in 1964, 197,000 families received such houses.

The Leader opened up brighter and more magnificent prospect for rural, modern housing construction.

At the 5th Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea, he set forth the task of building 150,000 to 200,000 modern homes in the countryside every year.

As the Leader instructed, in our country a housing construction project, which started at the beginning of this year, is being vigorously pushed forward to provide 250,000 rural families with modern homes by April 15 next year.

A socialist modern farm village prospering under the rays of "Theses on the Socialist Rural Question in Our Country"

In south Korea under U.S. imperialist occupation, the people suffer an acute housing shortage due to the anti-popular policies of the reactionary rulers.

Too striking a contrast between the housing conditions of the rulers and exploiters and the ordinary urban inhabitants in south Korea.

"Ministers," "Vice-Ministers," "assistants" and "secretaries" to the high-ranking authorities, "national assemblymen" and comprador capitalists live in luxury in gorgeous mansions worth 30 to 300 million won at south Korean market price.

Each of their houses holds as many acres of land as would be enough for 100 ordinary houses, with swimming pools, trees in the garden, the most expensive of which costs 1.5 million won, with one million-won carpet, 3 million-won wardrobe, 200,000-won sofa, 300,000-won aluminium-framed door and other furniture of foreign make, even the maintenance of which costs the owner 400,000 won a month.

Thus in south Korea the privileged parasites boast of their wealth, living in luxury in gorgeous dwellings whereas ordinary people suffer from hunger, ill-clad and even without shelter, not far beyond the fences of the rich.

Of the poor townspeople, those who have ramshackle mud huts or match-box houses framed with a few sticks and boards are the luckiest; a large number of the poor who don't have their own houses have to seek shelter in a framework screened with old sacks under a bridge or in a tent, or else they must sleep in the open.

For instance, about half of the workers in the peripheries of Tongdaemun District, Songbuk District, Sodaemum District and Mapo District, Seoul live in match-box houses, 24 per cent of them in dugouts, and 11 per cent in tents.

Millions of poor urban inhabitants have been reported to be in such wretched conditions.

Even according to the south Korean press, 59 per cent of the population are homeless in Seoul, 59.1 per cent in Pusan, 55.8 per cent in Taegu, 47.3 per cent in Taejon, and 46.3 per cent in Inchon.

Shabby board-hovels standing huddled together in Tongdaemum District, Seoul. This plight of misery is an outcome of the anti-popular policy of the south Korean authorities

How Has the South Korean Side Acted for 100 Days since Announcement of North-South Joint Statement?

The first meeting of the Co-Chairmen of the North-South Co-ordination Commission was held at Panmunjom on October 12.

At the meeting an analysis was made of the situation following the announcement of the north-south joint statement, the discussion took place on the matter of promoting the independent peaceful reunification of the country on the basis of the three principles for it and an agreement was reached that the second meeting of the Co-Chairmen of the NSCC be held late in October.

We rejoice over the convocation of the meeting and its outcome.

The convocation of the meeting of the Co-Chairmen of the NSCC owes to the wise leadership of Comrade Kim Il Sung, the respected and beloved Leader. It is a precious fruit born by his policy for the independent peaceful reunification based on the great *Juche* idea.

The announcement on July 4 of the north-south joint statement which followed the north-south high-level talks was indeed a historic event of epoch-making significance in our people's struggle to accomplish their national cause of the country's reunification.

In particular, the three principles of national reunification suggested by the respected and beloved Leader Comrade Kim Il Sung were clearly stipulated in the joint statement. As a result, our people came to have the reasonable guiding principle for a prompt solution of the reunification problem and the banner of patriotism which encourages all the fellow countrymen to achieve unity.

This explains why the honest-minded people the world over, not to speak of the entire Korean people, warmly hailed the joint statement and entertained an ardent hope that the agreements in it would be implemented at the earliest possible date.

Our side has so far made every possible, sincere effort to honestly observe the principles of reunification clarified in the joint statement and carry all the agreements into practice, in order to live up to the keen desire and expectation of all the nation.

Consequently, a little progress was made in the cause of national reunification.

But, what has happened for 100 days since the announcement of the joint statement shows us that not all problems were solved smoothly despite the ideal manifested in the joint statemept.

This is entirely attributable to the unjust stand of the south Korean side.

The respected and beloved Leader Comrade Kim Il Sung said:

"After the publication of the joint statement, the south Korean authorities have turned their backs and are employing a double-dealing tactics; they are not honestly implementing the agreements stipulated in the joint statement. They say good words when they have face-to-face talks with us. But, as soon as they turn on their heels, they slander us and are engrossed in statements and acts contrary to the fundamental spirit of the joint statement."

As widely known to the public, it is even before the ink was dried on the joint statement that the south Korean side launched out into speech and action to scrap it.

The day after the publication of the joint statement, the south Korean authorities delivered a speech at the "national assembly," and made statements at a number of the subsequent official gatherings: "The joint statement which is nothing but a sheet of paper is unbelievable," "we cannot tell our fortunes with the joint statement made in a few sheets of paper" and "any movement against the joint statement outside the national assembly would be unobjectionable." By the above-mentioned speech and statements they meant to violate the agreements and scrap the joint statement itself, and went so far as to egg on some people to start a "movement" opposing it.

Through the joint statement the two sides reached an agreement on the essential point in the solution of the reunification problem, that is, the principle of reunifying the country independently without any interference of outside forces.

The south Korean authorities, however, acted diametrically contrary to this principle; they alleged that the U.S. imperialist aggressor army "is not the outside forces," let alone the UN and the "UN Commission for Unification and Rehabilitation of Korea," clamoured that they were "dead set against the abolition of the UNCURK and the UN Command" and expressed their "hope for the prolonged stationing of the U.S. army" to implore for the perpetual occupation of south Korea by the U.S. imperialist aggressor army. Moreover, they were hell-bent for ushering the Japanese militarists into south Korea on a bigger scale than ever, saying that Japan "should back up the security of Hanguk (south Korea-Ed.). The visit to Japan by a south Korean high-ranking person in authority, scheduled for mid-November, means a tour of traitorous, mendicant diplomacy.

The south Korean authorities took actions in violation of the principle of reunifying the country peacefully.

Instead of creating an atmosphere of peaceful reunification, they strengthened the "state of emergency" and stepped up the war preparations, raving that "national strength should be built up and the security system be maintained in order to score a success in the dialogue-accompanied confrontation." They went the length of setting their paid trumpeters in motion to release such an intolerable, provocative statement that "all should rise up with rifles in their hands" and so on, so forth.

What was more, the south Korean authorities were unscrupulous in speeches and acts which run counter to the third principle of national reunification that the great national unity should be promoted, transcending the differences in ideology, ideal and social system.

They manoeuvred to impose on us the "reunification based on the system of liberal democracy," saying "efforts should be made so that a wind of liberalism may rise" in the northern half of the DPRK, and conducted the "anti-communist" campaign more feverishly than ever so as to stir up distrust and antagonism between the north and south, far from promoting the unity between them. Worse still, they arrested and imprisoned at random those people who called for the reunification, prevented the personages of opposition parties from getting in touch with us and brutally killed one after another the revolutionaries and patriots who devoted themselves to the activities for democratic freedom and peaceful reunification of the country.

The joint statement stipulates that the two sides should refrain from slanders and vilifications to produce an atmosphere of mutual trust.

But, the south Korean side started a campaign for slanders and calumnies against us right after the announcement of the joint statement. Particularly with the second session of the full-dress north-south Red Cross talks held in Seoul, they kicked up a noisy racket for slanders and calumnies against us.

They themselves proposed not to slander and calumniate each other. But they turned their backs and launched out into slanders and calumnies. Such acts of the south Korean authorities further aggravated the relations between the north and south.

The reaction shown by the south Korean authorities for 100 days after the announcement of the joint statement tells us that although they solemnly promised to the whole nation to faithfully implement agreements in the joint statement, they failed to implement them in deed and machinated in every way to quash the joint statement.

The south Korean authorities must not play such a base trick as double-faced dealing but must respect the joint statement which reflects the aspirations and desire of all the people in the north and south and must make sincere efforts for carrying it into practice.

Noting that the south Korean side reaffirmed the spirit of the north-south joint statement at the recently-held first meeting of the Co-Chairmen of the NSCC, we will follow with keen attention the actions the south Korean authorities may take in the days to come.

As for the North-South Coordination Commission, the focus of great concern and expectation of all the nation, it should become not an advisory or recommendatory body but a responsible and authoritative institution which is capable of discussing and deciding various matters designed to accelerate national reunification and putting them into execution. This is the only way for the NSCC to practically discharge its important mission.

We hope sincerely that the Coordination Commission will be formed at the earliest date to push ahead with its work in real earnest.

We will remain faithful as ever to the north-south joint statement and will exert every effort to put it into practice so as to live up to the expectation of all the Korean people and the honest-minded people the world over.

Li Jip

Kim Dok Hyon, Chief Instructor under Political Committee of Central Committee of WPK, Interviewed by Newsmen at Panmunjom

Kim Dok Hyon, Chief Instructor under the Political Committee of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea met Korean and foreign reporters at Panmunjom on October 12 after attending the first meeting of the Co-Chairmen of the North-South Coordination Commission.

After making public the joint information of the first meeting of the Co-Chairmen of the North-South Coordination Commission agreed upon at the meeting, he, to begin with, said that the two sides analysed the situation following the publication of the north-south joint statement and had a frank and unreserved exchange of opinions on questions for promoting the independent and peaceful reunification of the country on the basis of the three principles of the country's reunification.

We think that is of weighty significance in improving the relations between the north and the south and satisfactorily fulfilling the agreed points of the joint statement, he said, and continued.

The publication of the historic north-south joint statement marked the first step in carving out the path of national reunification by the united efforts of the north and the south and an epochal event bringing a bright hope to the entire Korean people who ardently desire an end to the split of the nation.

Convinced that we could live up to the expectation of the whole nation by faithfully abiding by the principles of the country's reunification and all the agreed points declared in the north-south joint statement, we have shown all sincerity for their faithful fulfilment.

The first meeting of the Co-Chairmen of the North-South Coordination Commission held on October 12 showed that it was useful and significant.

We promoted mutual understanding at the meeting by having an open-hearted exchange of opinions.

At the talks, it was agreed upon to respect the north-south joint statement and further push ahead with the common cause of the nation in its spirit.

He said in conclusion that it was agreed upon to form and operate the North-South Coordination Commission through consultation in the future.

Warm Congratulations to Somali People on Third Anniversary of Victorious October 21 Revolution

Three years have passed since the October 21 revolution emerged victorious in Somalia.

The victory of the revolution in Somalia and the founding of the Somali Democratic Republic were a historic event of epochal significance in the history of the Somali people and this gave great inspiration to the anti-imperialist, national-liberation struggle of the African peoples.

After victory in the revolution the Somali people, under the correct leadership of the Supreme Revolutionary Council headed by Major General Mohammed Siad Barre, have been waging a dynamic struggle to build a new society.

Frustrating the subversive and sabotaging machinations of the imperialists and domestic reactionaries, the Somali people destroyed the old ruling machines and energetically carried out progressive social reforms. Under the slogan "Let us achieve the country's genuine independence with our own efforts," they nationalized factories, enterprises, banks and companies of foreign imperialists and are striving to lay foundations for the development of the national economy.

In Somalia special attention is directed to developing the national economy and many power stations, cement factories, textile mills and fur and meat processing factories are now under construction.

The agricultural output, too, is on the increase from year to year. Great progress has also been made in the fields of education, culture and public health service.

"Somalianization" is steadily being realized in all domains of politics, economy and culture and a stubborn struggle is carried on to increase the national defence capability and attain national unity and the country's complete reunification.

The Korean people are heartily rejoiced at the successes scored by the diligent Somali people and warmly congratulate them.

The U.S.-led imperialists are now making subversive and sabotaging manoeuvres of every description to strangulate Somalia in its cradle, which is advancing under the uplifted banner of anti-imperialism and independence. They, however, cannot stave off the victorious advance of the Somali people.

The government and the people of the Somali Democratic Republic are opposing imperialism, colonialism and racism, developing the relations of friendship and cooperation with the socialist countries and giving full support and encouragement to the anti-imperialist, national-liberation struggle of the Asian, African and Latin American peoples.

Especially, the Somali people are extending active support and militant solidarity to the just struggle of our people to drive the U.S. imperialist aggressor army out of south Korea and achieve the country's independent, peaceful reunification.

The respected and beloved Leader Comrade Kim Il Sung said:

"We are very happy to have such comrades-in-arms on the African continent as the Somali people who have common aspirations to achieve the victory of national-liberation revolution and the cause of socialism against imperialism and are firmly resolved to make every effort to actively support their just struggle."

The Korean people are very much pleased to have the Somali people as their close friends and comrades-in-arms.

In the future, too, our people unfolding the anti-imperialist, anti-U.S. joint struggle shoulder to shoulder with the Somali people will support and encourage the just struggle of the Somali people who are advancing vigorously aspiring after socialism.

We wish the Somali people more brilliant victories in their struggle to defend the revolutionary gains, build a new society and realize the complete unification of the country.

Traitors' Poppycock against Peaceful Reunification

The south Korean reactionaries have become all the more foolhardy in speech and action running counter to the north-south joint statement.

According to a report from south Korea, a high-ranking person in authority recently conducted a wily propaganda telling sheer lies about the northern half of the DPRK at a gathering of servicemen and vociferously urged them "not to be taken in over the communist propaganda" and not to habour an "illusion" about the Red Cross talks.

Simultaneously with this, a south Korean radio aired the statement that the "peaceful reunification is no better than the split" and thus advocated the "infeasibility of peaceful reunification."

This is another glaring evidence that shows how far the south Korean reactionaries have gone in their criminal manoeuvres, upset by the mounting tendency of the south Korean people for the peaceful reunification.

Openly crying down the north-south joint statement, they rave that it would be a "nonsense" to try to find "any common denominator" for national reunification in a "single statement."

It is the fundamental spirit of the joint statement to pave the way for the peaceful reunification by narrowing down the difference between the north and south, instead of sticking to them, and finding common denominators in broader aspects for the interests of the nation, though the north and south have different social systems and ideologies.

Nevertheless, the south Korean reactionaries allege that they can find no denominators due to the difference between the north and south in the social system. This fully reveals their foul ulterior motive to quash the north-south joint statement now although they were compelled to sign it, unable to withstand the pressure exerted by the Korean people and the world public opinion.

They twaddle that the peaceful reunification is to be achieved through elections, that terrorism, an inevitable accompaniment to elections, takes a heavy toll of lives, that the "UN-supervised" elections are essential to its prevention and that the peaceful reunification is "infeasible" because the Communists oppose the "UN-supervised" elections.

Such a poppycock constitutes an insult to our spirited people who have the strong consciousness of national independence and the great capacity for united action. It is no more than a cry of distress the flunkeyist traitors, who committed the irredeemable crimes against the country and the people, send forth as they are afraid of the people and the democratic elections.

As shown by the whole course of the elections to the power organs of all levels which were held in the northern half of the DPRK on several occasion, there can be no terrorism when the people take part in elections to exercise their sovereignty without the interference of outside forces.

Terrorism is not the inevitable accompaniment to elections mentioned by the south Korean reactionaries but is a product of fraudulence.

A striking proof of this is furnished by a number of the "UN-supervised elections" held in south Korea.

The south Korean reactionaries and their trumpeters prattle that "some 5 million persons will be purged in order to reunify the country and so," "not the reunification but living is important," in an attempt to strike terror into the minds of the people and recklessly insist that the reunification problem may be discussed 30 or 40 years after.

The respected and beloved Leader Comrade Kim Il Sung said:

"Though they solemnly promised to the nation to faithfully implement the agreed items of the joint statement, the south Korean rulers are thus violating them without hesitation. They do not think of the consequences of their treachery to the nation."

If they persist in the acts betraying the nation, going against the unanimous desire of the people and the trend of the times, they will never be able to escape the resentment of the people and the bitter accusation of the public opinions at home and abroad but will have still gloomier prospect in finding a way out.

The Korean people will surely accomplish the cause of national reunification by frustrating the splitting manoeuvres of the traitors to the nation.

Li Hwan

Friendship Visits

☆ A parliamentary delegation of the Oriental Republic of Uruguay led by Jose Enrique Dias, General Secretary of the Socialist Party of Uruguay, arrived in Pyongyang on October 10 by plane for a visit to our country.

☆ A delegation of the Soviet-Korean Friendship Farm headed by L.S. Levanovsky, Vice-Minister of Land Irrigation and Water Conservancy of the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic, arrived here on the 10th by air to visit our country.

☆ A delegation of the **Munca**, the organ of the Central Council of the General Federation of Trade Unions of Romania, led by its Editor-in-Chief Galeteanu Ion arrived in Pyongyang on the 10th by plane for a visit to our country.

☆ A delegation of the Soviet Union Society of "Knowledge" led by Yuri Konstantinovich Fishevsky, First Vice-Chairman of its Central Committee, arrived in Pyongyang on the 10th by air for a visit to our country at the invitation of the CC of the General Federation of Industrial Technology of Korea.

☆ A Soviet table-tennis team arrived here by air on the afternoon of the 10th to visit our country under this year's plan for exchange of sports teams between Korea and the Soviet Union.

☆ A delegation of the Women's Council of Chechoslovakia headed by its Chairman Gusta Fucikova arrived in Pyongyang on the 10th by plane for a visit to our country.

☆ A delegation of the Swedish Social Democratic Youth Union headed by Lars Enggvist, Chairman of its Central Committee, arrived here on the 13th by plane for a visit to our country at the invitation of the CC of the League of Socialist Working Youth of Korea.

☆ A Singapore journalists delegation led by Joh Seah Hiong, senior political reporter and editor of the Singapore paper **Sin Chew Jit Poh**, came to Pyongyang on the 13th by air to visit our country.

☆ A delegation of Woman Activists of the Japan Socialist Party led by Sumiko Tanaka, Member of the Central Executive Committee, and Director of the Women's Department, of the Japan Socialist Party, Chairman of the Japan Women's Association and Member of the House of Councillors, arrived here on the 13th by plane for a visit to our country at the invitation of the CC of the Korean Democratic Women's Union.

☆ The vacationing group of Party workers of the Communist Party of China led by Comrade Wang Shou-tao, Member of the CPC Central Committee and Secretary of the CPC Kwangtung Provincial Committee, left Pyongyang on the 11th by train after visiting our country at the invitation of the CC of the Workers' Party of Korea.

☆ Arne Bjorn Berg, Swedish Ambassador to China, left here on the 6th by plane after visiting our country at the invitation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

☆ Ryosuke Yasue, Editor-in-Chief of the Japanese political and theoretical magazine "Sekai," who had been on visit to our country, left Pyongyang on the 10th by air.

☆ A journalists delegation of the MEN News Agency of the Arab Republic of Egypt headed by Mohammed Wagdy El Sayed, a section chief of the MEN News Agency, left Pyongyang on the 10th by plane after concluding its visit to our country.

☆ A friendship delegation of Otwock County of Poland led by Wladyslaw Golinetiak, First Secretary of the Otwock County Committee of the Polish United Workers' Party, which had been visiting our country, left here on the 10th by plane.

Asia—Main Arena of Anti-Imperialist Revolutionary Struggle

Comrade Kim Il Sung, the great Leader of the revolution, said as follows concerning the position held by Asia in the development of world revolution:

"...Asia has become the fiercest battle front against imperialism, the main arena of the anti-imperialist revolutionary struggle today." ("Report on the Work of the Central Committee to the Fifth Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea," Eng. ed., p. 117.)

In the past the imperialist powers and their minions subjected the Asian people to cruel exploitation, and Asia became a focal point of contradictions. A wave of fierce struggle for national liberation in Asian colonies was set off long ago. After the Second World War, the Korean War in particular, the Asian people carried on the anti-imperialist revolutionary struggle more forcefully than ever, brought to political and ideological awareness. This is the inevitable development of history. At the same time, this explains why Asia has now become the front or main arena where the anti-imperialist revolutionary struggle is waged most fiercely, as mentioned by Comrade Kim Il Sung.

In Asia the revolutionary forces of the people against imperialism and colonialism have rapidly grown in scope and strength. There are a larger number of the revolutionary, fighting countries in Asia than in other continents of the world.

It is in Asia that the revolutionary struggle of working class for socialism and the national liberation struggle which constitute the two major revolutionary forces of our time join steadfastly in one current that carries imperialism to grave.

The might of Korea and other Asian socialist countries has increased from day to day, and the peoples in these countries have been fighting resolutely against the policies of aggression and war of the U.S.-led imperialists, holding fast to the anti-imperialist revolutionary stand.

Moreover, in Asia there are many other revolutionary peoples struggling against the aggression of imperialism and reactionary rule of its stooges and for national liberation and independence.

The Vietnamese people and other Indochinese peoples have been waging the heroic resistance war to knock down the U.S. imperialist aggressors and their lackeys and liberate the entire Indochinese peoples.

The working class and people of Japan have been unfolding the dynamic struggle against the U.S. imperialists and the monopolists, thereby dealing serious blows at the U.S. imperialist war policy and revival of Japanese militarism.

The Thai people have been waging with vigor the armed struggle against U.S. imperialism and the pro-American dictatorial regime. The people, youth and students of the Philippines have also turned out in the courageous struggle opposing the political and economic enslavement of their country by U.S. imperialism. Besides, many other Asian peoples are taking part in the struggle against imperialism and colonialism.

As seen above, in Asia there are many countries keeping up the anti-imperialist, anti-U.S. struggle. The socialist forces and national liberation forces in this region have been closely linked together as one in the struggle against imperialism and colonialism. Consequently, the Asian people, who were in the past oppressed and plundered by the imperialist aggressors, have now become the powerful revolutionary forces of our age. Asia, once a continent of colonies, has now become the front where the forceful struggle is waged to carry imperialism to grave, the main arena of the anti-imperialist revolutionary struggle.

Another reason why Asia should become the fiercest battle front and main arena of the anti-imperialist, anti-U.S. struggle is that the foothold of the U.S. imperialists, chieftain of the imperialists, is shaken to its foundation and its final collapse is hastened in this region, due to the powerful anti-imperialist, anti-U.S. struggle of the Asian peoples.

Prompted by the sinister design of dominating Asia, the U.S. imperialists have directed the spearhead of aggression to Asia and left no means untried in their aggressive manoeuvres to block and attack the Asian socialist countries and stem the rapidly growing national liberation movement there.

The U.S. imperialists, however, sustained the most ignominious defeat in the Korean war for the first time in their history and started going downhill. Since then they have been given in succession sledge-hammer blows by the peoples in Indochina and in other parts of Asia. They are now in a hell of a fix.

The shambles of the Vietnamese war have become a grave yard where the U.S. imperialist aggressors lay buried, contrary to their calculations. For four months from March 30 the People's Liberation Armed Forces of South Vietnam achieved brilliant war results; they killed or captured 220,000 enemies and put out of action 1,800 tanks and armored cars, 3,600 military vehicles of other types and 1,200 guns, downed or destroyed on the ground 1,300 airplanes and sent 310 war vessels to the bottom.

The U.S. imperialists' "Vietnamization-of-war" policy has resulted in a complete failure and the South Vietnamese puppet troops have become impotent, disintegrating beyond retrieve, due to the powerful attack of the People's Liberation Armed Forces of South Vietnam.

The heroic Vietnamese People's Army and people have dealt telling blows at the U.S. imperialists by shooting down or destroying the U.S. imperialist pirates that intruded into the territorial air and sea of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam; the number of U.S. airplanes destroyed in the North Vietnam since the U.S. imperialists launched their aggressive war ran into more than 4,000 as of mid-October.

The U.S. imperialist colonial rule over Cambodia is tottering beyond control. The people and National Liberation People's Armed Forces of Cambodia have already liberated eight-tenths of the territory and seven-tenths of the population. This is a great, political and military victory to their credit. They have recently driven the enemies into more and more passive position, pressing them hard toward Pnom-Penh and other areas of Cambodia.

The Lao people have been waging the successful liberation war, consolidating and developing the vast liberated areas by repulsing the repeated, desperate attack of the U.S. imperialists and their henchmen. The U.S. imperialist manoeuvres to "Laotianize the war" have turned out a fiasco on a full scale.

The anti-imperialist revolutionary struggle of the peoples in Asia—the fiercest battle front and main area of the struggle—is of tremendous importance.

Comrade Kim Il Sung pointed out:

"The anti-imperialist revolutionary struggle of the peoples in the Asian continent with more than half of the world population and enormous natural and economic potentialities is strengthening the position of socialist countries in the world arena and providing favourable conditions for a further advancement of the international working-class movement by aggravating the general crisis of the world capitalist system and by striking imperialism from behind." ("The Great Idea of Lenin on the National Liberation Struggle in Colonies in the East Is Triumphing," Eng. ed., p. 11.)

The anti-imperialist revolutionary struggle of the Asian peoples further aggravates the general crisis of the world capitalist system, first of all, and hastens the final collapse of that system.

Colonies constitute the imperialists' life line. Asia in particular is important strategically and rich in manpower and material resources. The anti-imperialist revolutionary struggle of the peoples in this region is the struggle which is cutting off the imperialists' life line. This cannot but place on the order of the day the complete liquidation of imperialism and colonialism.

Modern imperialism is led by the U.S. imperialists. Therefore, the fatal blow at them in Asia inevitably deepens the general crisis of imperialism and brings earlier the final ruin of imperialism.

Also, the anti-imperialist revolutionary struggle of the Asian peoples is now conducive to pulling down the imperialist barriers around the socialist countries, thereby defending them and strengthening their position. At the same time it provides favourable conditions for a further development of the national liberation struggles in Africa and Latin America and the working-class movement in the United States and other capitalist countries.

The U.S. imperialists, therefore, are making frantic efforts to put down the flames of the anti-imperialist national liberation struggle of the Asian peoples which spread like a prairie fire and prop up their tottering colonial rule in this region.

The U.S. imperialists are trying hard to gain their aggressive ends easily in Asia chiefly by means of "making Asians fight Asians," concentrating their aggressive armed forces on this region and whipping together the Japanese militarists and other satellite countries and puppets of theirs in accordance with the aggressive "Nixon doctrine."

The U.S. imperialist aggression brings closer together all the revolutionary Asian countries on the one common front against U.S. imperialism.

The U.S. imperialists will not be able to stay on in Asia but will be forced out of there eventually, if the Asian peoples continue to join hands in giving blows at them and exerting pressure to bear on them.

Son Jong Sik

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